

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s) : Michael WHITMAN et al.
Serial No. : 10/785,672
Filed : February 23, 2004
For : SURGICAL CUTTING AND STAPLING DEVICE
Examiner : Gloria Weeks
Art Unit : 3721
Confirmation No. : 2683

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically deposited to the USPTO via the Office electronic filing system on December 30, 2009.

Signature: /Loretta E. Charles/
Loretta E. Charles

AMENDMENT

S I R:

Pursuant to the filing of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and in response to the Final Office Action of September 11, 2009, kindly amend the above-captioned application without prejudice as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.